



Name _____ Date _____

Drops on a Penny Lab

Using the Scientific Method

Introduction: In this experiment, you will use the scientific method to answer a simple question about water. Remember, scientists are very concerned with accuracy, so pay close attention to following the procedure as you work through the experiment.

Problem: You and your partner will be trying to answer this question:
Do the different patterns on each side of a penny affect how much water they will hold?

Research: Record observations in the box below about each side of the penny. Think about what factors might affect how much water the sides will hold.

Hypothesis: What is your hypothesis, or PREDICTION, of the answer to the problem? Your answer should be in a complete sentence.

Experiment: Follow the procedure to collect your data. Read the procedure very carefully.

Materials Needed: penny, dropper, container with water, paper towel

Procedure:

1. Place a penny heads side up on a paper towel.
2. Fill the dropper with water.
3. Hold the dropper as close to the penny as you can WITHOUT TOUCHING IT (2 cm or less).
4. Squeeze the bulb on the dropper to release **ONE DROP** of water at a time onto the center of the penny.
5. Count the number of drops you are able to put on the penny until the water spills over the edge. Count carefully!!
6. Record the data in the data table.

